IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

STOUT, Robert L.

Serial No.: 10/051,253

Filed: January 18, 2002

METHODS OF DETERMINING CHRONIC

HEPATITIS C INFECTION

Docket No. 32265-RCE

Customer No.: 23589

Group Art Unit No. 1648

Confirmation No.: 7968

Examiner: HORNING, Michelle

Assistant Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants, through their attorneys, hereby petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for a two-month extension of time in which to file a response to office action of August 25, 2006. Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0522 in the amount of \$225.00 for the two-month fee.

In the event that the foregoing request or fee calculation is incorrect, this Petition should be construed as one for sufficient time to permit timely filing of the present reply. Any additional fee which is due in connection with this Petition should be applied against our Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully submitted,

HOVEY WILLIAMS LLP

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ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANTS